

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-51. (Cancelled)

52. (Currently amended) An oral brush suitable for massaging the gums, comprising:  
an elongated handle;

a head portion, sized for insertion into a human mouth, extending from an end of said handle;

a brush portion comprising

(a) at least one elastomeric element extending a sufficient distance from said head portion to contact the interdental spaces, comprising a thermoplastic elastomer having a Shore A hardness of less than 55 and a flexural modulus of at least 5 MPa, said thermoplastic elastomer comprising a styrenic block copolymer, and

(b) a plurality of non-elastomeric bristles extending from said head portion, [ ]  
wherein said elastomeric element extends upwardly from said head portion in substantially the same direction as at least some of the non-elastomeric bristles to simultaneously massage the gums and contact the interdental spaces.

53. (Previously presented) The oral brush of claim 52 wherein said elastomeric element is disposed along a longitudinal outer edge of the head portion.

54. (Previously presented) The oral brush of claim 53 wherein the oral brush includes at least two elastomeric elements, and one is disposed along each longitudinal outer edge of the head portion.

55. (Currently amended) An oral brush suitable for massaging the gums, comprising:

an elongated handle;  
a head portion, sized for insertion into a human mouth, extending from an end of said handle, the head portion including a surface defined by two outer longitudinal edges;  
a brush portion comprising  
(a) a single row of first bristles extending from said surface along one outer longitudinal edge, said first bristles comprising a thermoplastic elastomer having a Shore A hardness of 30 or greater and a flexural modulus of at least 5 MPa, said thermoplastic elastomer comprising a polyolefin elastomer, and  
(b) a plurality of non-elastomeric bristles extending from said surface immediately adjacent to the single row of first bristles,-  
wherein at least some of the first bristles are the same height as at least some of the non-elastomeric bristles.

56. (Currently amended) The oral brush of claim 55 further comprising a second row of said first bristles extending from said surface along the other ~~second~~ outer longitudinal surface~~edge~~.

57. (New) The oral brush of claim 52 wherein said elastomeric element extends upwardly at substantially the same angle as at least some of said non-elastomeric bristles.

58. (New) An oral brush suitable for massaging the gums, comprising:  
an elongated handle;  
a head portion, sized for insertion into a human mouth, extending from an end of said handle, the head portion including a surface defined by two outer longitudinal edges;  
a brush portion comprising  
(a) a single row of first bristles extending from said surface along one outer longitudinal edge, said first bristles comprising a thermoplastic elastomer having a Shore A hardness of 30 or greater, said thermoplastic elastomer comprising a polyolefin elastomer, and

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(b) a plurality of non-elastomeric bristles extending from said surface immediately adjacent to the single row of first bristles, wherein at least some of the first bristles are substantially the same height as a portion of the non-elastomeric bristles disposed adjacent a longitudinal centerline of the head portion.

59. (New) The oral brush of claim 58, wherein at least some of said first bristles comprising a thermoplastic elastomer are the same height as said portion of the non-elastomeric bristles.

60. (New) An oral brush suitable for massaging the gums, comprising:  
an elongated handle;  
a head portion, sized for insertion into a human mouth, extending from an end of said handle, the head portion including a surface defined by two outer longitudinal edges;  
a brush portion comprising

(a) a single row of first bristles extending from said surface along one outer longitudinal edge, said first bristles comprising a thermoplastic elastomer having a Shore A hardness of 30 or greater, said thermoplastic elastomer comprising a polyolefin elastomer, and

(b) a plurality of non-elastomeric bristles extending from said surface immediately adjacent to the single row of first bristles, wherein at least some of the first bristles comprising a thermoplastic elastomer are non-perpendicular to the surface of the head portion.

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